

# Climate Action and Resilience Planning

## Community Visioning Workshop

Wednesday, November 17, 2021

Cut Bridge Productions



**MVP**  
Municipal Vulnerability  
Preparedness



# Team Introductions



**Gregg Cademartori**  
City of Gloucester  
Planning Director



**Gemma Wilkens**  
City of Gloucester  
Staff Planner



**Van Du**  
MAPC  
Project Manager



**Cara Goodman**  
MAPC  
Clean Energy Specialist



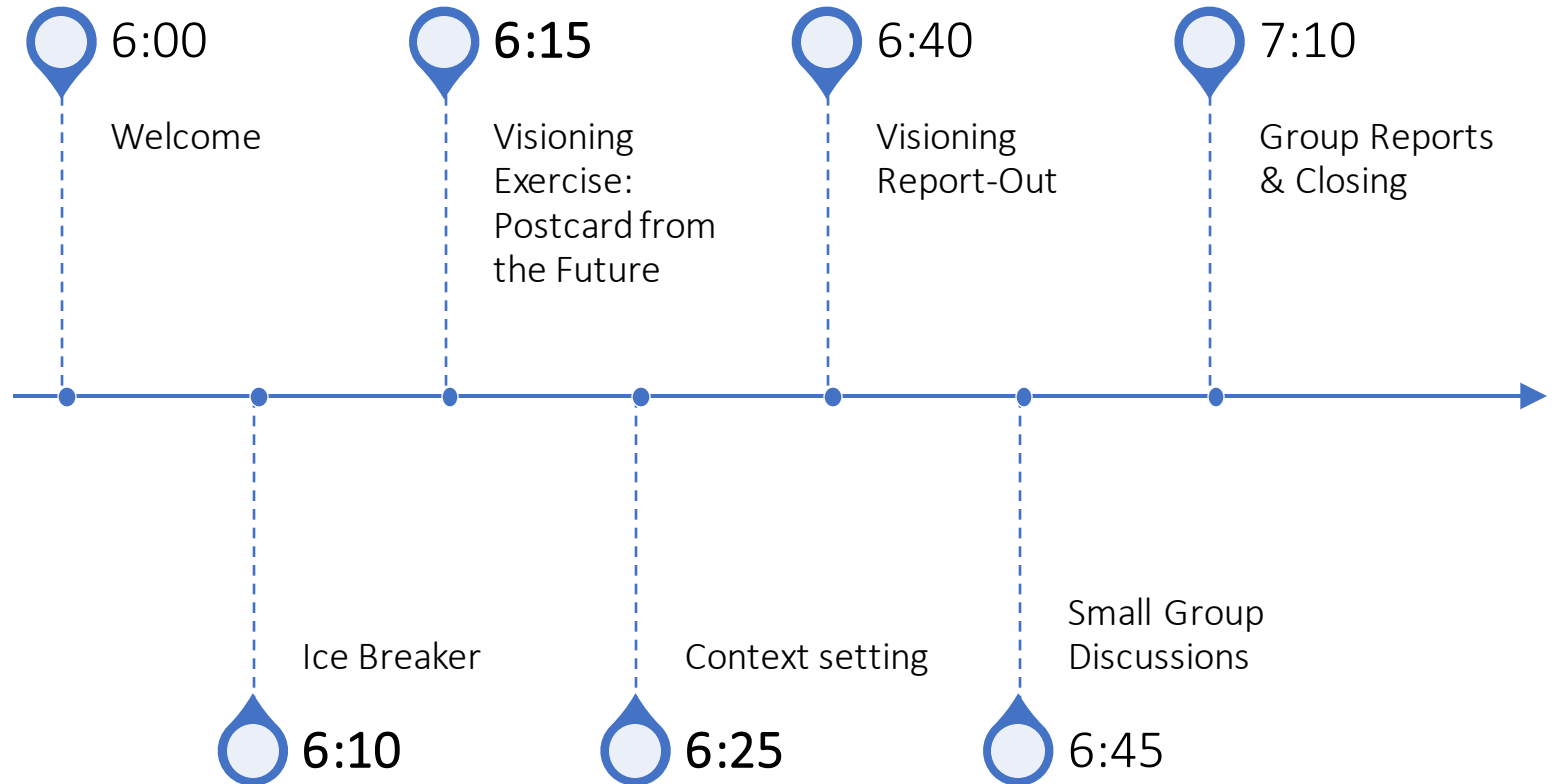
**Francelis Morillo Suarez**  
MAPC  
Clean Energy & Climate Fellow



# Workshop Goals

- Introduce Gloucester's Climate Action and Resilience Planning (CARP) process and work-to-date.
- Gather feedback to inform the City's vision for its climate action plan and goals.
- Understand community priorities.
- Collect input on potential strategies to consider for the Plan.
- Encourage participation throughout the CARP process.

# Workshop Agenda



Ice breaker:

Where is your favorite place in Gloucester?



THIS MEETING WILL BE  
RECORDED



PARTICIPANTS WILL BE  
MUTED UNTIL  
BREAKOUT GROUPS  
ARE FORMED



PLEASE SHARE  
YOUR NAME AND  
VIDEO IF ABLE



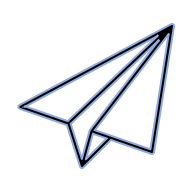
USE THE CHAT  
FOR QUESTIONS  
AND COMMENTS

# Caretaking Announcements

# Inclusion Statement

Both the City of Gloucester and MAPC are committed to fostering an inclusive and diverse learning environment. We acknowledge our differences and accept our diversity in gender, sexuality, disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, race, and culture as a strength. We strive to foster equity and to maximize respect and fairness. Today we need all participants to engage constructively and treat others with dignity and respect.

*Please feel free to contact our team if you would like to talk about any suggestions and/or concerns connected to this project.*



# Postcard from the Future

The year is 2050 and the City of Gloucester has met its climate goals. You are writing a postcard from your future self to your current self in 2021.

- What does Gloucester look like now in 2050?
- What changes took place to make Gloucester a sustainable and climate-resilient community?

Submit your response here: <https://bit.ly/320z6Se>





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# Gloucester Climate Planning Process

# City of Gloucester: Climate Work to Date

## MITIGATION

- Green Communities (GC) Designation (2010)
- Blackburn Wind Turbine Commissioning (PPA) (2012)
- GC Funded Energy Retrofits O'Maley, GHS, Sawyer Free Library (2013)
- Idle Reduction Retrofit DPW/Police Vehicles (2013)
- Municipal Electric Car Fleet and Charging Stations (2015)
- LED Streetlight Conversion (2016)
- National Grid Community Initiative (2017, 2018)
- Rogers Street Charging Station (2018)
- GC Funded EMS Energy Retrofit Gloucester High School (2018)
- Community Electricity Aggregation (2019-2021)
- GC Funded LED lighting retrofit at GHS (2020)
- GC Funded EMS expansion at GHS (2020)
- Adopted PACE (2021)
- Demand Response (2021)
- New Community Electricity Aggregation (2022-2024)
- Energy Efficient Zoning (2021-ongoing)
- CARP and GC Application Development (NOW)

## ADAPTATION

- MIT Consensus Building Institute – Scenario Planning (2010)
- Little River Restoration and Flood Mitigation (2014)
- Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan (2015)
- Feasibility and Re-design of Vulnerable Pump Stations (2017)
- MVP Action Plan (2018)
- MVP Action Water Supply Vulnerability Assessment (2019)
- Floodplain Zoning (2021-ongoing)
- Gloucester High School Flood Mitigation (Ongoing)
- Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Mitigation (Ongoing)

# State Context: An Act creating a Next Generation Roadmap for MA Climate Policy

- **GHG target of net zero** by 2050 and 50% by 2030
- Increase in **clean energy**
- Promoting **Environmental Justice** (+ updating EJ Policy)
- New **appliance efficiency** standards for residential and commercial products
- New opt-in **net zero stretch code** to municipalities
- Amends the **Board of Building Regulations and Standards** mission
- **Dept of Public Utilities** mission changed to include climate change and GHG emissions
- **Mass Save** incentives shift to energy efficiency and electrification
- Funding for **green energy jobs** at MassCEC
- Improves gas **pipeline safety**
- Established pilot program to deploy **geothermal heat pump micro-districts**



# State Context: Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program

- Part of Governor Baker's Executive Order 569 (2017).
- MVP Program provides support for cities and towns in Massachusetts to:
  - identify climate hazards,
  - assess vulnerabilities, and
  - develop action plans to improve resilience to climate change.
- Resources for resiliency planning (project examples, planning toolkit, etc.) available at <https://resilientma.org/mvp/>



# Gloucester Climate Action and Resilience Plan Overview

An inventory of Gloucester's current (baseline) greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, renewables, and natural resources.

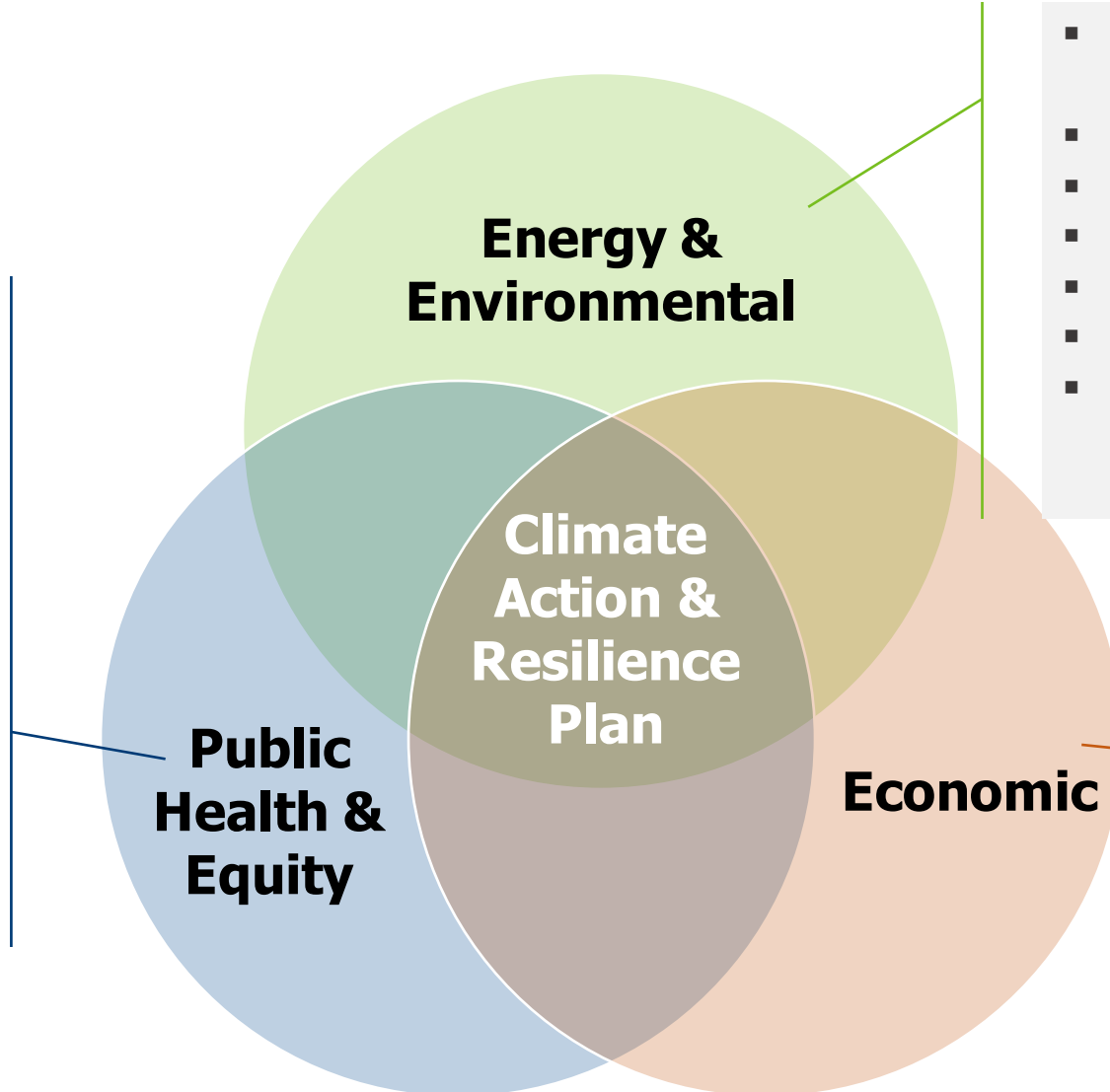
An equitable community outreach plan and approach.

A set of community goals (GHG emissions reduction, renewable energy deployment, forest and watershed protection, enhanced community resiliency, etc.).

A community roadmap that sets forward both municipal and community actions that advance the community's identified climate goals.

# Co-Benefits of Climate Actions

- Improve respiratory health
- Avoid unnecessary deaths
- Support active lifestyles
- Save on health-related costs
- Reduce health burdens on Environmental Justice populations
- Reduce community vulnerabilities and strengthen social cohesion



- Ensure a stable and diverse energy supply
- Reduce peaks in price
- Build a resilient energy system
- Support local energy production
- Reduce common pollutants
- Minimize climate change impacts
- Increase resilience of natural resources and long-term water quality/quantity

- Support a green economy and local economic opportunity
- Provide good green jobs

# Focus Areas

**BUILDINGS**

**ENERGY**

**NATURAL  
RESOURCES**

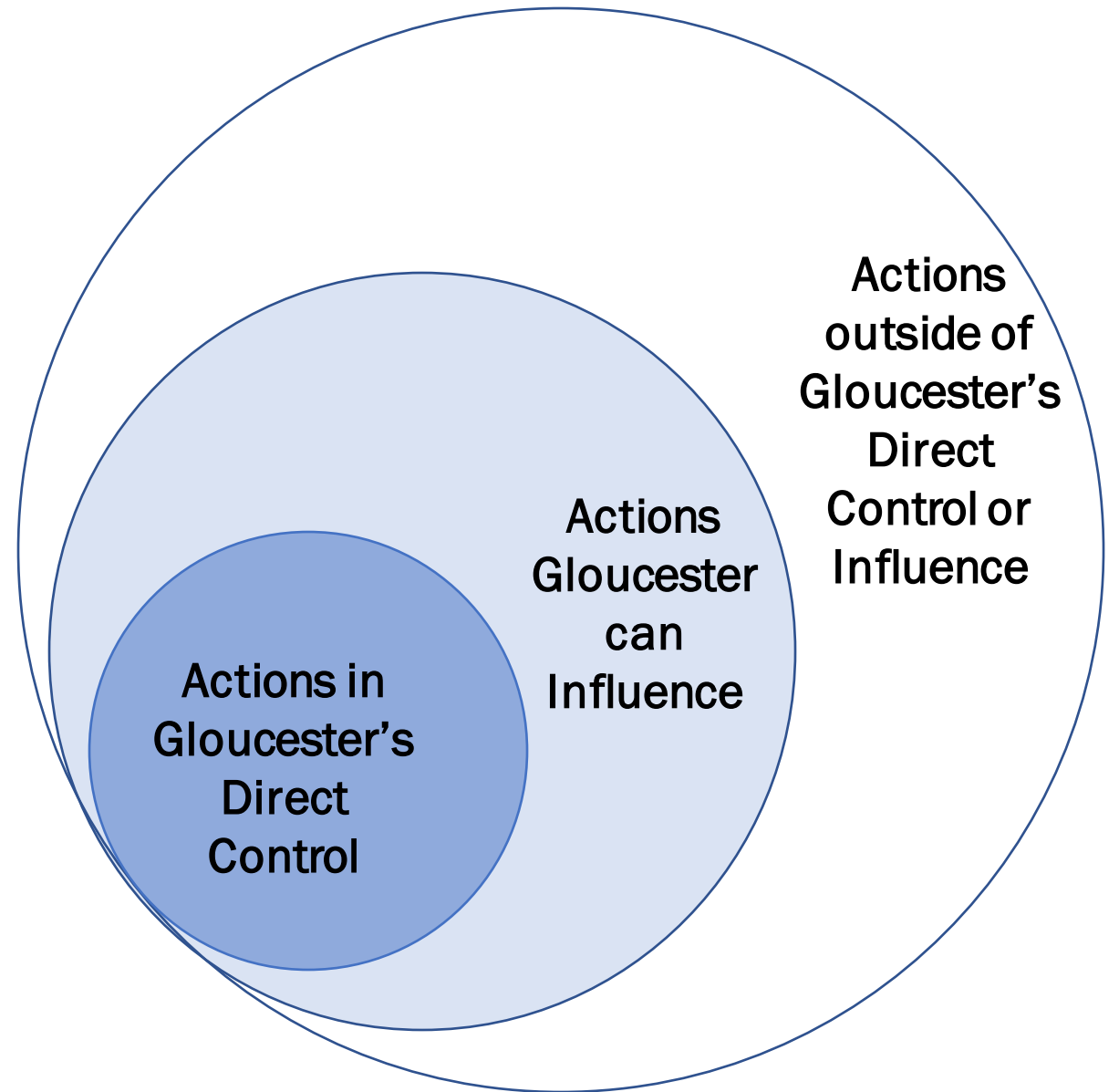
**MOBILITY**

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

**SOLID WASTE  
RESOURCES**

**PUBLIC HEALTH  
& SAFETY**

# Spheres of Influence





# Equity Assessment

For each strategy in the plan, answer:

Who has been historically impacted?



Who will be most impacted by the types of changes to our climate we expect to see?



How will the benefits of this strategy be distributed?



# Project Tasks & Timeline

## Stakeholder Engagement Activities

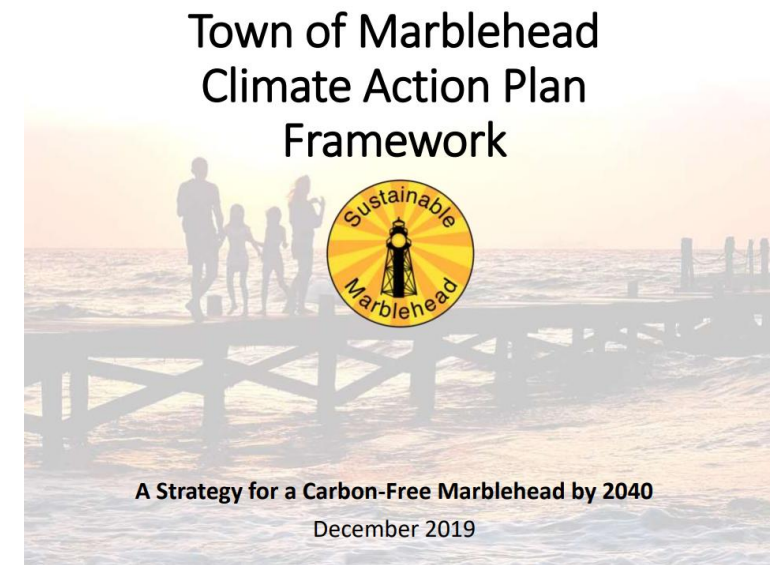
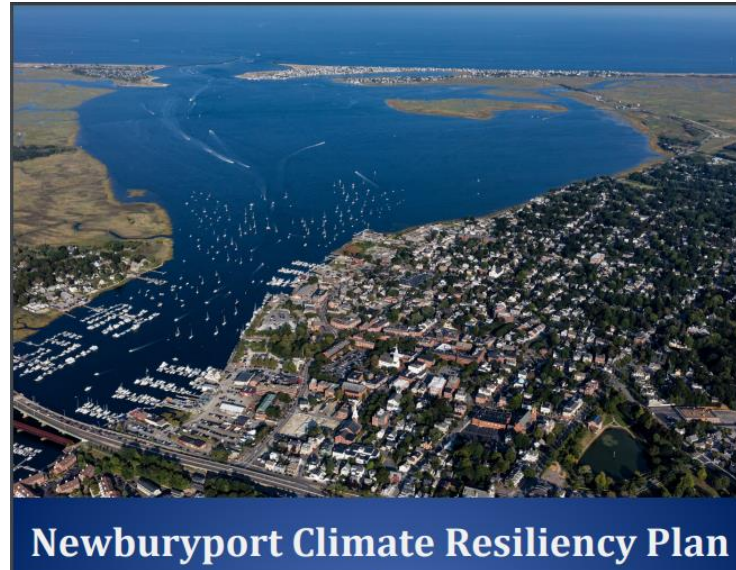
**Greenhouse  
Gas (GHG)  
Inventory  
Development**

**Goal Setting**

**Action  
Identification**

**Action  
Prioritization**

**Final Plan  
Development**




# Plans from Neighboring Communities

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"Wow! Gloucester is even more beautiful. The harbor is full of electric boats, no more diesel fumes! Electric cars and buses are on the streets with plenty of charging stations for people who live in apartment and park cars on the streets. It is also cooler in downtown Gloucester, the City planted lots of native trees so it is no longer a heat island in the summer. They also only plant native species on the City owned land which is great for the pollinators. They installed lighting on the Harbor that doesn't cause light pollution for the people who live downtown, remember how over lit the harbor was, it was like daylight at night, not good for human health. There are plenty of safe bike lanes to ride for transportation or pleasure. They have preserved our open spaces for hiking and wildlife. There are solar panels on the roofs of industrial buildings that help cut down on our greenhouse gas emissions. Unfortunately, because of the melting of the glaciers we have lost some coastline due to sea level rise, but the City had stopped issuing building permits in the 2020s to properties that were in the predicted flood zones and that saved us a lot in loss of property and life."



"Sustainable fishing industry and working port, including with marine science. Diverse industries and solid middle-class jobs, diverse housing -- no gentrification, natural systems restoration -- marshes, wetlands, beaches, green spaces, trees inclusive, strong culture multi-generational and cross-cultural engagement strong community identity and attachments of people to the place -- natural and community using climate mitigation and adaptation projects to advance these goals."



# **Small Group Breakout Discussions**

# Discussion Guidelines

- Please [mute](#) yourself when not speaking.
- Keep in mind that [we are all learning](#) and are in different places in our learning.
- Please [focus on listening](#), and on appreciating what others are trying to say, not only on what you are hearing.
- Wherever possible please [refrain from multitasking](#) on email or social media and strive to remain fully present and tuned in to what others are saying and feeling.
- Please [assume best intent](#) in everyone's comments and strive to keep a constructive tone in your own.
- Please use simple, [accessible language and avoid jargon and undefined acronyms](#).
- When speaking, please make just one point and then let others speak. We want everyone to have an [equal chance to speak](#).
- Use [oops, ouch, sorry, and sidebar](#). We are all trying to learn and grow from our conversation. If something wrong was said acknowledge it, apologize, and or flag it to a facilitator on private chat sidebar. Direct message [Van Du \(our sidebar staff\)](#).



## **Group Report Out | Q&A**



# Next steps

- Fill out the community survey and encourage others in the community to do so as well!

<https://bit.ly/3Fpl2jD>

- Stay tuned for upcoming CARP workshops!

How worried are you about climate change? Please move the slider to indicate, with "0 = not at all worried" and "10 = very worried."



What is most important to you about climate change? Select all that apply.

Increasing global temperatures

Rising cost of living (food, utility bills, transportation, etc.)

Impacts to environmental/natural resources (invasive species, risks to local trees, water quantity and quality, etc.)

More severe weather events and impacts (storms, flooding, heatwaves, wildfires, etc.)

Rise in public health issues (insect-borne diseases, heat-related illnesses, displacement, etc.)

Nothing, climate change is not important to me

Other, please describe:

How quickly do you think we need to take action on climate change in Gloucester? Please move the slider to indicate, with "0 = not at all" and "10 = most urgent."



# Thank you!

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